

#G  
LB  
2/17/04

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Approved for use through 07/31/2008. OMB 0851-0031  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

<b>Request For Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal</b>  Address to: MS RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450	<b>Application Number</b>	09/696274-Conf. #4372
	<b>Filing Date</b>	October 25, 2000
	<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Robert P. St. Pierre
	<b>Art Unit</b>	2681
	<b>Examiner Name</b>	D. Nguyen
	<b>Attorney Docket No.</b>	SMQ-036RCE

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application.

1. **Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114** Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).

- a. ☐ Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.
- i. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_
- ii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

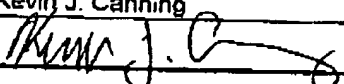
2. **Miscellaneous**

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)
- b. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

3. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed

- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 12-0080
- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)
- ii. ☒ Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)
- iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ 02/17/2004 enclosed: 00000004 120080 09696274
- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed), CC-1801 770 00 00

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

<b>Name (Print/Type)</b>	Kevin J. Canning	<b>Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)</b>	35,470
<b>Signature</b>		<b>Date</b>	February 3, 2004

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office, facsimile no. (703) 872-9906, on the date shown below

Dated: February 3, 2004

Signature: 

(Kevin J. Canning)